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HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Assessments Subcommittee

FOCUS FILE
attached to my
memo on FOCUS
schedule.

HRC-AS-C-005

March 16, 1976

MEMORANDUM

25X1 TO : [redacted]
Executive Assistant to the Deputy
for National Intelligence Officers
Room 7E-62, CIA Headquarters

25X1 FROM : [redacted] Chairman
Assessments Subcommittee

SUBJECT : 1976 FOCUS Review Program Schedule

25X1 1. Thank you for providing the Subcommittee with the National
25X1 Intelligence Officers' list of proposed FOCUS Reviews for the
balance of 1976, i.e., Reviews proposed in addition to the four
which are already underway on [redacted]

[redacted] The subcommittee appreciates the NIOs' willingness to carry on their important contribution to the FOCUS Review Program in this fashion. The record of the past year has demonstrated that their collaboration is essential to the success of the Program and its further refinement during the months ahead.

2. Attached is a list of FOCUS Reviews which the intelligence community Departments and Agencies have proposed through their representatives on the Assessments Subcommittee. (Included in the list is a separate column indicating the FOCUS Reviews which have been proposed by the National Intelligence Officers). The list takes account of the fact that the aforementioned four FOCUS Reviews are already included in the 1976 schedule. The Reviews were selected on the basis of one or more of the following specific criteria:

- (a) perceived or suspected shortcomings in existing reporting programs,
- (b) the desire to have the benefit of an authoritative and up-to-date review of reporting from US Missions in countries where:

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- the United States has major diplomatic, economic and international security interests and/or commitments,
- significant internal political or other changes are anticipated which would have direct or indirect impact on important US regional interests and objectives,
- substantial intelligence community resources are deployed.

3. The support which the Departments and Agencies are lending to the FOCUS Review Program stems in large measure from their responsibilities as primary contributors to national intelligence, policy and operational consumers of intelligence, and managers of major field collection programs and resources. The FOCUS Reviews can provide them with a useful indication of whether their own and other Agency efforts are providing information for national intelligence which is substantively adequate, timely, cost-effective, and justified in terms of its responsiveness to the expressed priority needs of Washington policy officers and the intelligence community. Where past FOCUS Reviews have identified shortcomings in these regards, the Departments and Agencies have attempted to rationalize their efforts through appropriate coordinated action both at the Washington level and, through the Chief of Mission, in the field. It is for these reasons that the priority preferences which the Departments and Agencies have registered in the attached list should, I believe, be given substantial weight in the final determination of the FOCUS Review schedule.

4. I would appreciate it if the NIOs would review the list against the background of their own perceptions of national intelligence needs and priorities. Their comments and views, expressed perhaps most practicably in the form of a somewhat condensed proposed list, will greatly assist the Subcommittee in drawing up an agreed FOCUS Review schedule which, following final consultation with the NIOs, will be submitted to the USIB successor body for approval. I am also at their disposal to discuss the schedule with the NIOs either jointly or individually as seems best.

Attachment:

As stated

cc: Chairman, Human Resources Committee

Members, HRC Assessments Subcommittee

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